

ENVIRONMENTAL PROFESSIONAL PROCESS

1. Application Process

Individuals interested in becoming an Environmental Professional (EP) must provide an application to the Hazard Management and Resource Restoration State Office Program Lead (SOPL) for review and concurrence. Upon review, the SOPL will determine if the applicant does not meet the requirements or forward the application to the EP panel for further consideration and evaluation.

If the EP panel determines the applicant meets the qualifications based on 40 CFR Part 312.10(b)(2), he or she will be added to the EP list and will be advised to take the National Training Center (NTC) EP course for a refresher. Applicants who do not meet the requirements will be notified.

2. Qualifying under 40 CFR Part 312.10(b) (2) (i), (iii), and (iv)

Candidates qualifying under this criterion can conduct Environmental Site Assessments and are requested to take the EP course at NTC for a refresher. 40 CFR Part 312.10(b) (3) states that an EP should remain current through continuing education. Upon completing and passing the EP course, these candidates will receive a signed certificate from the Assistant Director, Minerals, Realty and Resource Protection.

3. Qualifying under 40 CFR Part 312.10(b) (2) (ii) Certified by the Federal Government

If the EP panel determines the applicant has the equivalent of 3 years of full-time relevant experience but needs to be certified by the Federal government to qualify as an EP, he or she will be recommended for the EP course at NTC.

Applicants who seek to be qualified by being certified by the Federal government must complete and pass the BLM EP course. Upon completing and passing the EP course, these candidates will receive a signed certificate from the Assistant Director, Minerals, Realty and Resource Protection. All candidates receiving this signed certificate and who have the equivalent of 3 years of full-time relevant experience are now qualified and will be added to the EP list.

Currently the BLM is the only agency that offers a process for a candidate to be certified by the Federal government as documented in 40 CFR Part 312.10(b)(2)(ii).

4. Roles and Responsibilities in the Environmental Professional Process

- State Office Program Leads (SOPL)
 - Provide recommendations for training
 - Validate information
 - Ensure States have a cadre of trained Environmental Professionals (EP) within their State
 - Review, comment and concur with applications
 - Maintain the EP list as needed
 - Evaluate relevant full time experience
- Environmental Professional Panel
 - Ensure the national list is updated annually
 - Coordinate with the National Training Center, and SOPLs to review applications for certification
 - Serve as the final authority to determine who meets EP qualifications and provide recommendations to Assistant Director, Minerals, Realty, and Resource Protection
- Washington Office
 - Coordinate with the National Training Center to ensure training is available for those seeking to stay current and those seeking to become qualified as EPs
 - Work with the panel to provide recommendations to the Assistant Director, Minerals, Realty, and Resource Protection
 - Distribute annual list of EPs via Instruction Bulletin
 - Solicit applications for EP via Instruction Memorandum
- National Training Center
 - Coordinate with the Washington Office to ensure training is available for those seeking to stay current and those seeking to become qualified as EPs
 - Coordinate Training results with Panel